

Lakeland Citywatch



Vol 16, No. 6
Dec. 2013/Jan. 2014



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Bi-monthly newsletter sponsored by the Council of Lakeland Associations (COLA)

Cool Springs HOA, Creekside Manor HOA, East Shores HOA, Garner Lake Association, Heron's Ridge HOA, Lakeland Area Chamber of Commerce, Lakeland Estates HOA, Lakeland Lions Club, Lakeland Lakeshore Ladies Club, North Lakeland Community Association, Oakwood HOA, Plantation Hills HOA, Sterling Place HOA, Windward Slopes HOA, Winstead Farms HOA, Woodbridge HOA, Woodland Park HOA

IH Clubhouse, 4523 Canada Road • Senior Center, 4527 Canada Road • Lakeland City Hall, 10001 Highway 70

Lakeland School System Facilities Deal Approved; Board Elected

Deals have been reached with the Shelby County School Board allowing Lakeland and Arlington to take possession of five schools within their boundaries. The Shelby County Commission approved agreements with both cities Nov. 22. The Shelby County School Board agreed to dismiss all of the claims regarding Lakeland and Arlington in the schools lawsuits still pending with a federal judge. The settlement must be approved by U.S. Dist. Judge Samuel "Hardy" Mays, along with the Lakeland Board of Commissioners and Lakeland and Arlington School Boards. The Arlington Board of Mayor and Aldermen approved the agreement Nov. 20. Lakeland was to vote Dec. 2.

Lakeland will pay SCS \$676,044 in 12 installments of \$56,337 to settle the lawsuits. In return, Lakeland will receive Lakeland Elementary School in a \$10 quitclaim deed.

In Arlington, that city will pay SCS \$3.99 million in 12 yearly installments of \$333,333 to settle the lawsuits. Deeded via \$10 quitclaim deed will be four school buildings.

The payments are due Nov. 1 each year, and if missed, the buildings will revert to the county district. Proceeds are to help county schools offset life insurance and health care costs for retirees and do not pay for the school buildings

In Lakeland last month, Kevin Floyd, Kelley Hale, Laura Harrison, Teresa Henry and Matt Wright were the top vote-getters in the Lakeland Municipal School Board elections.

Unofficial vote totals are 642, Floyd; 639, Harrison; 610, Hale; 556, Wright; 475 Henry; 288 Andy Griffith; and 84, Greg Pater. The vote was to be certified in late November.

The winners were to be sworn in Dec. 2 with the first meeting later that evening. Board members from both Arlington and Lakeland were to have a meeting the same night with the Tennessee School Board Association (TSBA). Plans are to hire a superintendent by the first of January.

Beverle Rivera & I-40: Construction on the Cusp



Map of changes to Huff N Puff/Beverle Rivera to Seed Tick. Work to start summer of 2014.

Just a few more months and work will begin on Beverle Rivera and Huff N Puff Roads to extend to Seed Tick Road. The long awaited traffic fix at Canada Road near I-40 commences in May 2014 with bid opening with construction to start in June or July 2014.

Beginning dates are similar for the I-40 Canada Road Single Point Urban Interchange. Bids let in May with construction to start around July.

The new Beverle Rivera will be a four-lane roadway from its present termination at Windward Slopes Park to Seed Tick Road. Although the roadway will accommodate four lanes, only

(continued on page 14)

RR
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New Survey for Lakeland Broadband

The City of Lakeland is launching a campaign, in partnership with Connected Tennessee, to collect information on the demand for broadband internet accessibility in the City Lakeland.

In cooperation with Connected Tennessee, the city is working to encourage broadband Internet providers to expand high-speed Internet services to unserved parts of the city.

"The City of Lakeland's continued growth and success as a place to live and do business is explicitly tied to the ongoing development and deployment of new technologies and most notably, the availability of broadband" says Ken Lipkowitz, president of the Lakeland Chamber of Commerce. "The successful deployment of broadband internet citywide will enhance quality of life for all City residents, fulfilling the city's motto, Where quality of life is a Way of life."

The results of a recent business survey conducted by Connected Tennessee shows that an estimated \$30 billion in online sales are earned annually by Tennessee businesses. This number alone illustrates how the adoption of broadband can change the framework of business, leading to a boost in the quality of life in communities around the state.

"Local leaders are realizing the importance of technology for quality of life, local entrepreneurship, and economic and business development," said Deanna Ward, Connected Tennessee, East Tennessee State Operations Manager. "We at Connected Tennessee are excited to be working with the City of Lakeland and are asking for the support of the community's residents and business owners to visit the Connected Tennessee website and fill out our broadband inquiry so that we are able to identify where service is lacking."

To take part in the survey, please visit <http://www.connectedtn.org/broadband-inquiry>. You are not obligated to sign up for any service, nor is there any guarantee that broadband service will be expanded in all parts of Lakeland in the near future.

Broadband inquiries are able to identify: 1) residents or businesses who do not currently have access to broadband but want it; 2) residents or businesses who have access to broadband but desire different or additional service options; 3) those who do not currently have access to broadband service at their location and would like to report that information to help improve the broadband inventory maps for the city.

If you would like to assist in this effort or have questions, please contact Ward at 731-699-0234, or dward@connectedtn.org; or Thad Jablonski, executive coordinator, at Lakeland City Hall 867-5402 or tjablonski@lakelandtn.org.

Third New Commissioner Selected For BOC

Gene Torrey became the third new commissioner for Lakeland when he was appointed Oct. 17 at a special meeting of the Board of Commissioners. He replaces Gerrit Verschuur who resigned in September to live in the Washington, D.C. area after Gerrit's wife took a job in Arlington, VA. The term expires in two years.

A retired FedEx pilot, Gene is a Memphis native who has lived in Lakeland since 2006. He worked for both County Mayors Bill Morris and Jim Rout as advisor for community affairs. For six and a half years he served as a liaison between the Lakeland City Manager Bob Wherry and County government.

He and his wife Marty have been married 43 years and have a son Dax, who is a coach and teacher at Memphis University School; and a daughter Sonia, who is a substance abuse counselor in Atlanta.



Alongside Wyatt Bunker, mayor, Gene Torrey signs a document after being sworn in as Lakeland's new commissioner Oct. 17. He replaces Gerrit Verschurr who resigned in September.

CITYWATCH

Published bimonthly by The Council of Lakeland Associations (COLA)

- Chair: Cecil Tompkins (Lakeland Estates HOA)
- Secretary: Cathy Epting (Cool Springs HOA)
- Treasurer: Jo Ann Cohen (Woodland Park HOA)
- Editorial board: Carla Sohns, Cecil Tompkins, Margaret Brown, Jo Ann Cohen, Gerry Burditt, Jim Willis & Bob Wherry
- Editor: Sherrye Willis — Send press releases and community information to: sjwmp@comcast.net
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- Half page ad - back cover: \$350 6 issues- \$325 per issue
- Full page ad: \$500 6 issues- \$450 per issue
- Full page ad - back cover: \$660 6 issues- \$600 per issue

Circulation: 5,500, delivered to all Lakeland addresses and some neighboring communities. Also available at City Hall.

New Legal Team for Lakeland

The law firm of Wiseman/Bray was selected Oct. 29 to replace David Lakin as city attorney for the City of Lakeland.

Representing the firm for Lakeland business will likely be Chris Patterson or Lang Wiseman, two members of the six-lawyer firm that have experience in employment, municipal, and election law.

The decision was made in a 3-1-1 vote by commissioners who heard presentations from four other lawyers or law firms and took five roll calls to come to a consensus.

Lang said they want to be a problem-solver and a problem-avoider in their relationship with Lakeland officials.

David's employment with Lakeland was terminated at the October meeting of the BOC, after the new mayor and two commissioners were sworn in.

City Manager's Report

Robert Wherry

Congratulations to the newly elected members of the first Lakeland Municipal School Board! I am impressed by the dedication of the Board. The Board has a tough job setting up a new school system, but I know from my experience in Lakeland, residents will join together to support the Board and school system and make it a truly outstanding system.

At this time, the Lakeland Municipal School Board meeting schedule is being finalized, but my experience with the Board members is that they will welcome questions and suggestions as they literally create a new school system.

I encourage all Lakeland residents to support the new Board. The school system will be a major investment and asset for Lakeland residents. I expect in future years, the Lakeland Municipal School System will be a major reason persons choose Lakeland as their residence.

Special Census

An estimated \$90,000 in additional revenue from State Shared Taxes is available for the City of Lakeland based on the City estimated increase in population since the 2010 Census. State Shared Taxes are based on a formula roughly equal to \$112 per resident.

How important is this? \$90,000 is the equal to city sales taxes received from a business with over \$8,500,000 in annual sales! And better yet, this is additional income received each year!

The City is completing the special census started last year. City staff will be contacting new residents and residents who did not respond last year to complete the census as well as homeowner associations.

We encourage all residents to assist in this Census and make every resident count!

City Information Available Through a Variety of Sites

www.Lakelandtn.gov: The City web site contains comprehensive information on City events and meetings. All agendas are posted on the City Web site and include the agenda and all backup material. A wide variety of community information is posted on this website. Detailed information includes refuse collection routes, Senior Center activities, park activities, various city projects, and detailed information on all aspects of the city. Residents can sign up to receive notification of new items that are posted to the website.

Facebook: The City of Lakeland Facebook page includes links to the history of the City and the latest news on meetings and events.

Twitter: The City has several Twitter accounts. The Twitter accounts remind residents of meetings and activities and are also used for breaking news.

Comcast Channel 19: Channel 19 (available on Comcast Channel 19 only) provides a listing of meetings and activities and general city information

Blogs: There are several blogs available on City of Lakeland activities including iLakeland (available on the City website www.Lakelandtn.gov) and Lakeland Highlights, available at www.google.com/blogger.

Twelve Years

I started as Lakeland City Manager on 11/01/01, so on 11/01/13, I have been here 12 years. I have found serving in Lakeland very rewarding and my wife (Aliene) and I enjoy living in Lakeland. I encourage all residents to keep contacting me with comments and suggestions.



Robert Wherry

January Meeting for COLA

The annual meeting for COLA (Council of Lakeland Associations) will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 25, 2014 at the IH Clubhouse.

The Council of Lakeland Associations (COLA) is the civic leadership body which addresses issues of mutual concern and interest to the combined membership of all duly constituted homeowner or neighborhood associations and civic organizations in the City of Lakeland. Currently there are 17 member organizations. It is open to all neighborhood associations for a small annual fee.

HOA presidents are invited to the meeting along with another representative from the neighborhood. Only one person from an HOA can vote.

Register for the COLA online message board by contacting Brian Haines, bhaines@mac.com. A primary interest of this OMB is neighborhood watch. <http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/lakelandcola/info>



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Holidays in Lakeland

Lakeland Dance

Friday, Dec. 6 7 - 10:30 p.m. IH Clubhouse

The monthly dance is sponsored by the River City Boppers and open to all ages. Cost is \$4 for Lakeland residents. For December, the club provides ham. Please bring a dish to share. Jan. 18 is Italian cuisine and Feb. 22 is New Orleans cuisine.

Visit with Santa

Saturday, Dec. 14 - 10 a.m.-noon IH Clubhouse

The Lakeland Lions Club and the City of Lakeland invite children to the annual Visit with Santa. The program includes Christmas-theme coloring with crayons as well as storytelling for the kids. Don't forget to bring your camera for pictures with Santa. Children 12 and under and families are welcome and invited. For more information, contact Recreation Program Coordinator Joy Cloud 867-2717 or jcloud@lakelandtn.org.

Your Donations Help Area Children

Connie Hess

Donations will be accepted until Dec. 20 for the Helping Hands Fund organized by Lakeland resident Connie Hess to ensure local children have Christmas gifts.

For more than 30 years, this project has provided Christmas for area children who would not receive gifts of clothing and/or toys for Christmas. Needy families will be identified by local schools and then visited to evaluate their needs.

If you can make a donation or purchase toys please contact Connie no later than Friday, Dec. 20 at 568-5282 or hankhess@aol.com. Please make checks payable to "Connie Hess Helping Hands" and mail them to 9756 Green Spruce Drive, Lakeland, Tennessee, 38002. Your help will mean so much to many children.



Connie Hess

Lions Club Gift Wrap

Saturday, Dec. 14 - 10 a.m. to noon IH Clubhouse

The Lakeland Lions Club will sponsor a gift wrap service to raise funds for Helping Hands during the Visit with Santa program. The Lions-sponsored program will run concurrently with *Visit with Santa* at the IH Clubhouse.

The goal of the Helping Hands program is to provide area children with clothes and toys. Wrappers donate their time, wrapping paper, etc. Please be generous with your donation. Gift wrapping is limited to small packages (shirt size or smaller.)

For more information, make a contribution, or volunteer to help, contact Connie Hess 568-5282.

Seniors 55+ Holiday Potluck Luncheon

Friday, Dec. 6 - 11:30 a.m., IH Clubhouse

You won't want to miss this fun-filled afternoon. There will be a delicious meal with a ham and turkey provided by Kroger, door prizes, great conversation and holiday music. Please bring your favorite covered dish that serves eight to share with the group and entertainers. Drinks will be provided. Please RSVP 867-2717 or rfink@lakelandtn.org.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

December

- 6 - River City Boppers Dance, 7-10:30 p.m., IH Clubhouse. Meat provided, bring a side dish or dessert.
- 6 - Seniors Holiday Potluck luncheon - 11:30 a.m. - IH Clubhouse
- 14 - Visit with Santa - 10 a.m. to noon - IH Clubhouse
- 14 - Lions Club Gift Wrap - concurrent with Santa Visit IH Clubhouse
- 17 - Board of Commissioners (BOC) work session, 6:30 City Hall
- 24,25 - City Hall closed for holidays, trash pickup delayed by one day

January

- 1 - City Hall closed for holiday, trash pickup delayed by one day
- 2 - BOC meeting - 6:30 p.m. - City Hall
- 16 - Lakeland Elementary School Spirit Night - Newk's.
- 18 - River City Boppers Dance - 7-10 p.m. - IH Clubhouse. Meat provided, bring a side dish or dessert.
- 25 - COLA annual meeting - 10:30 a.m. - IH Clubhouse

Lakeland Recycling Program

Gerry Burditt

CONGRATULATIONS to the following, who each won \$50 for recycling three types of material in bins.

September

James and Tina Hearn, Green Spruce, Lakeland Estates
William and Teri Hoffman, Laurel Hill, Plantation Hills
Christina Kelley, Clubview Cove N., Stonebridge
Karen D. Dykes, Palomino Drive, Rural Lakeland

October

Randy E. and Deborah R. King, Juniper Creek Drive, Evergreen Hills
Eric D. and Julie D. Johnson, N. Fir Hill Drive, Plantation Hills
Donald D. and Marilyn L. Benfield, Loch Meade Drive, East Shores
Esther Gilliam, Saskatoon Drive, Canada Woods

November

John Pitts, Clubview, Stonebridge
Glynn E. and Carolyn M. Grammer, Canada Road
Laquita Snuffin, Glade Verde, Stonebridge
Robert and Adrian O. Fencil, Colt, Oakwood

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SCS/Lakeland Elementary School

PTA News

Christye Gilliland, LES PTA

We had a great Campus Beautification Day Nov. 2! Thank you so much for those who came out to help make our campus look great.

We would like to recognize our student winners for the Reflections, Citizenship, and Safety poster contests!

Photography: 1st- Madison Hughes, 2nd- Sophie Gilliland.

Literature: 1st-Emma Nguyen, 2nd- Josie Todd;
3rd-Cayden Lancaster; 4th- Lauren Wander, 5th-David Hall.

Safety Poster winners: *Division 1:* Lyllian Bogue; *Division 2:* 1st - Hudson Gillespie, 2nd- Isabelle Shamblee, 3rd-Rayce Whitaker;
Division 3: 1st- Piper Pittman, 2nd-Corri Chapman, 3rd-Hailey Harrison

Citizenship Essay winners: *Division 3:* 1st-Christian Stevens, 2nd-Hailey Harrison, 3rd-Madison Davis; *Division 6:* 1st-Adam Milton, 2nd-Shanerika Draper, 3rd- Skyler Adler

We are so proud of the kids of Lakeland for taking the time to participate in these contests with their busy schedules !!

Our Lakeland Spirit nights are the following:

Dec.3-Lenny's & Jan. 16-Newk's.

Our Mathathon kickoff will start January 21!!



Christye Gilliland

Woodland Park HOA

Vikram Venkatesh

It is that time of the year! Family gatherings, holiday lights and décor, lots of good food and music, and of course, the chill in the air as we welcome old man winter! All in all, it is a fun time of the year.

Our Welcome Committee has been very busy this year greeting new residents in Woodland Park. To date we have welcomed 32 new residents. We encouraged anyone with new neighbors to introduce yourself and make them welcome to our neighborhood. If you know of any new residents that we may have missed, please let the committee know.

We remind everyone that we have an email communication system for Woodland Park. We send out crime alerts, neighborhood information and important issues concerning the City of Lakeland. It also is a good way for you to get your questions answered and to voice your concerns. We do not share email addresses and emails are sent out blind copy. If you want to be added to our email address book, send an email to Marilyn Piccatto at MarilynWPHOA@aol.com. A good source of Woodland Park information is our web site www.wphoa.net. We encourage you to check it out.

Have a wonderful holiday everyone and stay warm!



Vikram Venkatesh



Living Ribbon

This picture was taken Sunday, Oct. 13 on the front lawn of Lakeland Elementary School as a show of support for breast cancer and general cancer awareness. It was headed up by one of Lakeland's beloved teachers Lorna Weikum Miller. She is a breast cancer survivor and coordinated the event through Pink Heels. An awesome community event, according to Teresa Henry, a participant.

WINSTEAD FARMS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

Megan Wylie, Account Executive

Happy Holidays to you and yours! Hope everyone is preparing to decorate their homes with beautiful lights for the season and for the children to enjoy. With that being said, the children are about to be out for Christmas break. Please remember to watch for them as you leave and enter the subdivision. Children's safety is always important to us in Winstead Farms.

If you are new or a current homeowner in Winstead and you have not signed up to receive the Winstead Farms newsletter, please contact the editor Chris Neudecker, winsteadfarmshoa@gmail.com. Click and register your email address to receive current neighborhood updates and information.

Our book club is getting ready for the annual Christmas party to celebrate our love of reading and our five new members who joined this year! We will start the New Year by reading "The Immortal Life of Henriett Lacks" by Rebecca Skloot. This book has been on the best sellers list over a year and was written by a former creative writing teacher at the University of Memphis. For more information, please call Cathi Braswell 290-5599.

Just a friendly reminder to old and new homeowners. PLEASE contact the (ACB) Architectural Control Board if you are updating anything to the inside or outside of your home. Any and all projects must be approved by the board before any work can begin on the project. You can submit your project requests to Level 1 Management at mwylye@level1management.com.

If you have any questions, concerns, or problems regarding the HOA please call Level 1 Management at 321-6782 or email.

Hope everyone has a wonderful holiday and a great start to their New Year!



Megan Wylie



**North Lakeland
Community Association
(NorLCA)**
Chris Barnoud, President



The North Lakeland Community Association met Oct. 17. The last few months have been pretty quiet in our area of Lakeland and everyone seems pretty happy about it. The good news was Steve Shular, public affairs officer for Mayor Luttrell, was successful in recruiting some state and city resources to look into a storm water drainage problem in the Salem Woods neighborhood.

A couple of our community residents who have successful small businesses came to share their knowledge and experiences about our natural environment, trees and wild life. First Mitch Harrison, a certified arborist (<http://harrison-tree.com>) facilitated an interesting and entertaining discussion about trees and their care (diseases and treatments, proper maintenance, fertilization). Then Lorrie Newton, owner/operator of A-1 Wildlife Service (<http://a-1wildlifeservice.com/>), talked about some of the wild life that occasionally decides to set residence very near or even inside our homes. As always, we appreciate the graciousness of New Salem Cumberland Presbyterian for accommodating the meeting.

I also express our appreciation for our first Adopt A Street team, the Salem Ranch Pickers who take care of a section of Stewart road. Well done!

The next scheduled meeting will be after the holidays, Thursday evening, Jan. 16, 2014. We are planning on the participation of our new Lakeland Mayor, Wyatt Bunker, our Shelby County Commissioner Chris Thomas, and our Shelby County Public Affairs Officer Steve Shular. Please plan to be present and greet them. For more information, call Chris 488-2900.



Angela Booze and Ariel Guthery are the Salem Ranch Pickers in the North Lakeland Community Association.



Megan Wylie,
Account Executive



Hope you are enjoying this fall/winter weather we are having. Everyone is getting in the holiday spirit now. The children will be getting out for their winter break so keep an extra eye open on the streets of Herons Ridge.

The landscape initiative to improve the appearance of the pond area continues on track. The City has developed a landscape plan to support this cooperative effort. We anticipate the planting of trees between Thanksgiving and Christmas. If you would like to volunteer and assist with the planting, contact Megan with Level 1 Management Group at 321-6744 or by email at mwyllie@level1management.com.

The HOA will select the best decorated house in December and award a gift for this special recognition event. Everyone be sure to decorate your home with a lot of holiday cheer this season.

The HOA Board of Directors will have two vacancies for 2014. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Megan.

Just a reminder that children can visit with Jolly St. Nick, on Saturday, Dec. 14 10 a.m. to noon at the IH Clubhouse on Canada Road.

The next scheduled neighborhood clean up for the City's Adopt the Street Program will be in early December. Watch for posted signs announcing the date and join the HOA Board in support of this event.

If you have any questions, concerns or problems that need to be address about the HOA or if you need to submit a new project request, please contact Megan.

Hope everyone has a safe and wonderful Holiday season and a Happy New Year!

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Megan Wylie,
account
executive



Megan Wylie

Happy Holidays Oakwood Residents! As the year is ending, there are just a few things to remember. Since the holidays are here, we want to remind everyone if you need to rent the clubhouse for your holiday parties to do so soon. The clubhouse is booking up fast!

We have launched our new website, www.oakwoodlakeland.com, and would like all residents to register and update their information. This is a great way to keep up with upcoming neighborhood events, calendar, and anything related to Oakwood.

As the decorating part of the holiday season approaches, let's make Oakwood the neighborhood Lakeland residents want to drive through with their hot chocolate and Christmas music! Deck the halls and be festive this holiday season with your festive outside decorations!

Residents are invited to join us for the Children's Christmas Party for Oakwood families, which is scheduled for Dec. 14.

Wishing you the very best holiday season yet!



William Ashworth



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Lakeland Estates HOA

Sharon Helms



Sharon Helms

Our October general meeting was a success! Many ideas and concerns were shared on which we can focus our energies in coming months. Plans are underway to address vacant properties or those not being maintained, which are primary concerns of homeowners and HOAs.

Keep informed with our new informative website www.lehoalakelandtn.weebly.com Other great resources are Citywatch, GLA, the City of Lakeland and Next Door.

Future changes for our annual Lakeland fireworks were discussed. LEHOA members agreed we should work together with other HOAs surrounding Garner Lake to continue this wonderful event! Planning information was obtained from Karen Woodward who did an amazing job for many years! Thank you, Karen. You will be missed! Anyone around the lake interested may call me at 674-6717.

Another important issue was the deterioration of the boat ramp and the "beach" areas next to it on Red Cedar Cove. This is Lakeland Estates only functioning boat ramp which allows lake access to homeowners who do not have direct access. Therefore, it is imperative it be kept in good condition! Discussions with LMA about possible ways LEHOA can work together with them to make needed repairs are currently underway. Making these changes together can benefit everyone!

LEHOA thanks our community sponsors: Arlington Kroger, Hwy.64 Kroger and Hwy. 64 Gateway Tires. They supported us with food and door prize donations. Show your thanks by continuing to shop with them in the future! Special thanks also to our officers and board members for their hard work in bringing our meeting together as well as their donations of time, desserts and door prizes. Finally, thanks to each of our homeowners for coming and demonstrating their support with presence and input!

Sterling Place

Margie Holmes

All is currently quiet at Sterling Place. We are all getting our last minute rest before the hustle and bustle of Christmas.

The HOA met Nov. 4 and a new board was elected for 2014. Ron Wolf, June Goode, Linda Miller and Margie Holmes are all new members elected to the board. John Lovett is the only returning member. With lots of help and support from our friends and neighbors, we will plan a wonderful year for everyone.

All of the Sterling Place ladies enjoyed a wonderful luncheon at the Bahama Breeze, Nov. 4 and 8.

Soon the subdivision will be a beehive of holiday activity. Our neighbors will be decorating, shopping, and attending parties. May everyone have a blessed and enjoyable Christmas. Please remember our sick and lonely neighbors with prayers, cards, and visits.



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Plantation Hills HOA

Wesley Wright



I am a new resident in Plantation Hills having moved from midtown Memphis with my family in October. I place value in community improvement and networking.

That's my segue. As many of you who may be using Nextdoor.com are aware, it already has proven to be a great networking tool and is much more effective, private and secure than Twitter, Facebook, blogs or websites. Nextdoor.com is a website that provides neighbors a private and secure medium to post information about babysitters needed, yard sales, or community meetings, etc. This website expedites transfer of ideas and still keeps it secure to an area. You have to be a resident to join. To ensure the usefulness of Nextdoor.com, frequent participation by neighbors is paramount. To sign up, go to: www.plantationhills.nextdoor.com.

This article isn't a one trick pony, there is more. Already in store is a "Yard of the Month" for Plantation Hills, and quarterly meetings which would include a brief agenda and pot luck dinner for fellowship. There is a sense of urgency among residents for greater connectivity and fellowship in our community and we hope to give you an update with each article expressing accomplishments of those very aspirations. Of course, the best way to channel ideas for everyone to see and to gain traction is to use Nextdoor.com. Hint hint.

In the meantime, we will continue to send the neighborhood watch emails, so please send an email request to: cjsohns@msn.com and put "Plantation Hills" in the subject line to be added to that list.

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Windward Slopes HOA

Tom Benke

Here's to falling into winter with you and wishing each of you a safe and happy holiday season.

Yard of the Month - Windward Slopes would like to say congratulations to our Yard of the Month Winners for October. They won a \$ 50 gift card for making their yard look great. This is the end of the year for our YOM, but next spring it will start back up. Thanks for the great job! Morris & Rena Grimmitt

WSHOA Annual Meeting in February

Please be on the lookout for a communication coming from Keith Collins about the WSHOA Annual meeting. It is very important that every WS household is represented. This is the time to have your voice heard!

HOA Fees - It is that time again, Fee will remain the same as last year and so will the early-bird special. Please make sure to get them mailed in. And we would like to thank all the association members who are current on the HOA fees. It helps!

SAFETY - Please remember, the speed limit in OUR neighborhood is 20 MPH or slower.

Please slow down and look all around.

Key Phone Numbers to know: 911 and

379-7625 - non-emergency dispatch.

Stay connected and join the Windward Slopes Homeowners Facebook group or check our web site at www.windwardslopes.org. Also check out

www.windwardslopes.nextdoor.com



The Lakeland Chamber hosted a luncheon for area businesses Oct. 17th at Club Windward. George Colgate with Tennessee Small Business Development Center spoke on the numerous free resources available to small business through TSBDC. Pictured (left) are Ken Lipkowitz, Chamber president, and Sherri Gallick, commissioner. Barbara Taylor, Chamber ambassador, and Cross Fit Mechanix owner Stephen Carrigan.

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Lakeland Parks and Recreation

Thad Jablonski, executive coordinator,

Jennifer Rezba, public relations assistant

Joy Cloud - 867-2717 - jcloud@lakelandtn.org

IH Clubhouse - 4523 Canada Rd.

The Parks & Recreation Department expresses its appreciation for residents who routinely contact the City with vital feedback for planning existing and future recreation programs. The City wants to hear from you. Please contact Thad Jablonski, executive coordinator, 867-5402 or tjablonski@lakelandtn.org for information about the Department, recreation programming, and City of Lakeland parks.



Families and children of all ages attended the Halloween Carnival, many in costumes, including Julie, Colbie and Peyton Burns (left to right).



Carnival participant taking aim at the goal, i.e., to get as much candy as possible.

Lakeland Sponsored Annual Halloween Carnival

More than 200 children, parents, families, Lakeland staff, and volunteers attended this annual event the evening of Oct. 26 at the IH Clubhouse

Kids and parents alike wore costumes and participated in various games to win candy and tickets to redeem for prizes at the end of the evening.

Lakeland Recreation Program Coordinator Joy Cloud said that the Halloween Carnival and the upcoming Visit with Santa are two of the most popular Lakeland-sponsored events for kids in the area. The Lakeland Lions Club partnered with the City of Lakeland to sponsor the event.

The ongoing commitment by community volunteers and tradition of volunteerism in Lakeland allows Lakeland residents to enjoy a quality of life that stands apart from other communities.

The City of Lakeland and the Parks & Recreation Department offers a special thanks to all volunteers, including City staff that volunteered their own personal time to make the event such a success again this year!



Spiderman visits the "Halloween Carnival Store."



Joshua and Jacob (left to right) posing in S.W.A.T. Officer and Royal Knight costumes.

Lakeland Outdoors Festival 2014

Eric Bridges

Lakeland will host the third annual Outdoors Festival at IH Park from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 3, 2014....rain or shine. Festivities will include live music, fun children's activities, and displays by local artists, clubs and businesses. Outdoor experts will give demonstrations on kayaking, fly fishing, tree climbing, camping, bird watching, mountain biking, and more!

The event, hosted by the City's Natural Resources Board, is a hands-on introduction to the outdoors and to get children and parents involved with outdoor activities.

Last year, exhibitors included Mid-South Trails Association, the Wolf River Conservancy, Mid-South Fly Fishers, the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council, Tennessee State Parks, Keep Tennessee Beautiful, the Memphis Zoo, the Tennessee Ornithological Society, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, the C.H. Nash Museum at the Chucalissa Archeological Site and more! Music and entertainment was provided by Rockin Robin's DJs. Admission is free and parking is available. Food will be available on site. We look forward to seeing you there for a fun time in the outdoors!

To find out more visit www.lakelandtn.gov (search *Lakeland Outdoors*) or call City Hall 867-2717.

Lakeland Fitness Classes

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 8:30-9:30 a.m. IH Clubhouse

Lakeland Fitness incorporates cardio, yoga, and calisthenics into classes for a total body workout. Goals are to improve stability, strength, balance, agility, and endurance. The class is suitable for people 35+ but available for anyone that wants to get in shape. It is taught by Sherri Gallick, an AFAA Certified Instructor. The first class is free, each additional is \$5, or participants may purchase a 10-class card for \$30. A mat is required for class. For more information, contact Sherri 867-2345 or sagrusa@aol.com.

Lakeland Joins Walk Tennessee Initiative

With cooler temperatures, Lakeland residents are encouraged to go for a walk, run or bike ride and support their City in the "Active Livin' in Lakeland" Program.


Lakeland is one of several Tennessee cities competing in the Tennessee Municipal Leagues (TML) new wellness initiative "Walk Tennessee." The winning city will receive an outdoor fitness station and claim the title, "The Most Active City in Tennessee."

Walk Tennessee is designed to be a fun, social challenge to determine the most active city in Tennessee while highlighting all the great events in various communities. Through an internet-accessible program, community members can interact with one another online; form their own running, walking and fitness events; set goals; track successes; and even earn points that roll up to City Points.


TML believes cities provide the infrastructure necessary for active living, while also providing the history and points of interest to make being active fun and interesting. Join other Lakeland residents, your friends and neighbors, to show competing cities that Lakeland is active, fun, and fit city!

Lakeland residents are encouraged to join the City team by going to <http://www.cmecompete.com/communities/walk-tennessee/>. Any activities, whether in Lakeland or elsewhere, earns points for the City. At the end of the year, the city with the highest number of points will win outdoor fitness stations and nutritional product that could be used at future events.

For more information or instructions to sign up/join the City of Lakeland Team, go to the City website at www.lakelandtn.gov (recreation) or contact Lakeland City Hall 867-2717 or www.cityoflakeland@lakelandtn.org.



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Lakeland Senior Programs 55+

Senior Center - 4527 Canada Road
Joy Cloud 867-2717 jcloud@lakelandtn.org

The Lakeland Parks & Recreation Department invites adults 55+ to the Lakeland Senior Center.

RSVP or advance notice is not required to attend most programs unless otherwise noted.

For questions, more information, or to sign-up for the monthly senior brochure/calendar mail-out, contact Joy Cloud. For the latest Senior Center activities, including calendar updates, visit www.lakelandtn.gov (Search "Just for Seniors").

Senior Talent Needed!

Do you have computer training, musical or other talents? The Lakeland Senior Center wants to hear from you! To volunteer to host an instructional class, program or special event, or to volunteer at the Senior Center as a daily volunteer, please contact Joy Cloud.

The City of Lakeland appreciates the commitment, time, and hard work by dedicated resident volunteers, performers, and presenters that makes the Lakeland Senior Center an exciting and fun experience for City residents!

Weekly Activities for Adults 55+

Mondays: Ladies Bunco on the first and third Mondays of each month from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Contact Bobbi Cornett at 372-3244 with questions or for more information.

Tuesdays: YMCA Silver Sneakers* Muscular Strength & Range of Movement Class 10-11 a.m., IH Clubhouse. *NEW!*...plus Bunco will be played the first Tuesday night of each month from 6:30-8:30 p.m. and Mexican Train Dominos on second and fourth Tuesday of every month from noon-3 p.m. For more information, contact Bobbi Cornett 372-3244.

Thursdays: YMCA Silver Sneakers* Muscular Strength & Range of Movement Class 10-11 a.m., IH Clubhouse. *NEW!*...plus Mexican Train Dominos on the second Thursday of every month from 6-9 p.m.

Saturdays: "Kings and Queens" Bridge Game/Class - Bridge is played from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Come out and enjoy the camaraderie! Class begins at 12:30 p.m. Coffee will be provided. An instructor fee of \$5 will be charged to class participants. For more information, contact ACBL Instructor Judy Knox -737-8087 or jknnox7@bellsouth.net.

**If your insurance does not cover Silver Sneakers, each class costs \$4. First class is FREE.*



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The Lakeland Chamber hosted a ribbon cutting for Emerald Thai Restaurant 8950 Highway 64 in Lakeland on November 7. Owners Toui and Manila Praseuth provided a variety of food for those who attended.

Build-a-Bag Workshop (Emergency Planning)

Thursday, Dec. 12 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Claude Talford, Lakeland Emergency Management Director, will conduct a free workshop to put together three-day emergency kits. He will also discuss how to tailor a kit to suit the special needs of the elderly and children, as well as family pets.

In the event of a disaster, relief workers may not be able to reach everyone immediately. Basic services, such as electricity, gas, water, sewage treatment and telephones may be cut off for days or even weeks. Residents may have to evacuate at a moment's notice without time to shop or search for the supplies needed. A Disaster Supplies Kit can help your family stay safe and be more comfortable after a disaster. If you already have a kit, please bring it to the workshop.

Please RSVP to Claude Talford at 867-2717 or ctalford@lakelandtn.org if you are interested in attending the workshop.

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Terms and conditions may vary. See the terms and conditions for each product.

Upcoming Senior Center Special Events & Presentations for Adults 55+

Jam Sessions

***Wednesdays, Dec. 11, 18, etc. 2-4 p.m.
(except 1st Wed. of the month)***

Ken Gurley will be hosting Jam Sessions at the Senior Center. The after lunch bunch would like to invite players and singers to come and jam on Wednesday afternoons. Bring your guitar, mandolin, dobro, bass, harmonica, or other instrument to play and/or sing country, pop, rock, rockabilly, gospel, or other musical genres and forms. Residents are welcome to play, sing, or enjoy the entertainment!

Beginning Monday, Jan. 6th from 2-4 p.m.

Homer Bunker will be hosting Jamming at the Senior Center which will give seniors a chance to gather and play music on Mondays from 2 - 4 p.m. The group will start with about five to eight instruments will mostly consist of guitars and maybe banjos, mandolins, fiddles, etc. The acoustic music will be spiritual, country, blues and bluegrass (no microphones or amplifiers). The purpose is to get together for fellowship and help each other enhance their music ability.

Holidays Safety Class

Tuesday, Dec. 17 - 1:30-2:30 p.m.

A Shelby County Sheriff Department Deputy will show how to avoid being a victim during the holiday season. Topics to be covered include how to be alert, assert body language that may prevent an attack, and carrying objects in a way that may reduce the likelihood of being targeted while holiday shopping.

Senior Center Open House and Discussion Forum

Thursday, Dec. 19 and Jan. 16 - 2-3 p.m.

The Lakeland Senior Center will host an Open House and Discussion Forum for residents 55+ to provide input that will shape future Senior Center programming. Executive Coordinator Thad Jablonski and Recreation Program Coordinator Joy Cloud will attend the forums as a direct line for any comments or suggestions. Coffee and light refreshments will be served.

Holiday Sing-along

Friday, Dec. 20 - 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Professional concert pianist and Lakeland resident Irving Evans will lead a Christmas sing-along and will provide sing-along books for the participants' use. Irving joined the Ray Robbins Orchestra when 17 and played at the Peabody Hotel. During World War II, he performed for servicemen at several USO locations. Over the years Irving arranged music and performed for many private functions. Now in his 71st year of professional performing, he continues to entertain audiences around the Mid-South including many senior homes and facilities.

Computer Basics Classes

Tuesdays in January from 3:30-5 p.m.

Information Technology (IT) Instructors and Lakeland residents Tim Broughton and Howard Chick will provide instruction for beginners starting Tuesday, Jan. 7. The ongoing class is based on continuing participation and interest by participants.

Class topics include keyboarding, email, internet, and Microsoft Word. Participants will learn how to communicate with family via email, including sending photos, write letters using MS Word, search the Internet for news, weather, and recipes.

Howard Chick has been an IT instructor and has over 30 years of software development experience. Tim Broughton has used Microsoft Office products, internet, and e-mail in industrial and business applications.

The Lakeland Senior Center has a limited number of laptops available on a reservation and first-come, first-serve basis. *Participants should bring their own laptops, if possible.* To reserve a laptop or for more information, contact Joy Cloud.

Senior Health Series

Wednesdays in January from 10-11:30 a.m.

Charlotte Cavin, RN, BSN, CDE (Certified Diabetes Educator) will begin a series of information on how to have a healthy lifestyle by behavior changes and an awareness of the disease process. Ms. Cavin's professional work in diabetes management spans 26 years, also encouraging diabetes prevention through community talks and counseling. Depending on interest expressed during the health series, Ms. Cavin may begin support groups or extra sessions with participants after the series ends.

The Senior Health Series class schedule is as follows:

Wed. Jan 8: Diabetes, Diabetes Prevention and Obesity - Overview of this very prevalent and serious disease. You will be assisted in setting goals to improve and understand these conditions.

Wed. Jan 15: Healthy Eating - Reading labels, and counting carbs and fats.

Wed. Jan 22: Weight Loss - How to begin, how to make behavior changes, and exploring your motivation for being more healthy.

Wed. Jan 29: High blood pressure and high cholesterol - What does it take to get it under control.

Shelby Farms Park: America's Next Great Urban Park

Friday, Dec. 13 - 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Rebecca Dailey will share the Shelby Farms Park background and history, amenities offered at the park, and answer questions about future plans for the 4,500 acre Park, one of the largest urban parks in the U.S.

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e-mail: smileenhancement@bellsouth.net

Book Club

*Wednesday, Jan. 8, Feb. 5, etc. from 2-3 p.m.
(first Wed. of each month)*

Lakeland resident Jeannine Dillard hosts a monthly Book Club meeting at the Senior Center. New members are welcome and encouraged to participate! Refer to Senior Special Events for chosen books. For questions or more information, please contact Jeannine Dillard 331-2839 or jdillard@bigriver.net.

Hobby Coin Collecting

Friday, Jan. 17 - 1:30-2:15 p.m.

Memphian David Yawn, who has studied coins for 40 years and who now helps others through appraisals and brokerage of their collections, will discuss hobby coin collecting from both a collecting and investment perspective. Mr. Yawn will briefly discuss the history of US coinage, answer audience questions, and conduct mini appraisals for participants at no cost. For more information, visit Mr. Yawn's website at www.coin-worth.com.

Free Hearing Test

Friday, Jan. 24 - 1-3 p.m.

Sam's Wholesale will sponsor free hearing tests and provide an on-site hearing specialist who will present the topic of hearing loss. Come out and support this and other health-related programs to ensure that other providers continue to offer free health clinics at the Lakeland Senior Center.

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the two inside lanes will be constructed. Future development will pay for the two outside driving lanes.

When the roadway is built out it will include:

- Four lanes and a new bike and pedestrian trail along the north side of the corridor.
- Twelve foot wide driving lanes instead of the ten foot driving lanes currently on Huff N Puff.
- Wide shoulder will also be placed on the roadway for emergency stopping.
- The existing Huff N Puff Roadway will be removed and the grounds restored to historical elevations.
- The Huff N Puff Roadway Improvement project consists of resurfacing/reconstruction of the existing asphalt pavement from Canada Road to approximately 1800 lineal feet to the east. The current roadway serves as a major collector to Seed Tick Road which connects to several major subdivisions and a large elementary school. The roadway has varying pavement widths and poor drainage.

The new roadway will have access to Beverle Rivera Drive near Canada Road. Huff N Puff Road will be closed off on the east and west end of the existing street.

The redesign of the interchange is to move large volumes of traffic through limited space safely and efficiently.



Lakeland resident chosen as Emerging Memphis Designer



Donna Hathaway

Lakeland resident Donna Hathaway was chosen to be an Emerging Memphis Designer for the spring Memphis Fashion Week in March 2014. Memphis Fashion Week has become a popular event in the region and has helped local designers increase their exposure locally and nationally.

Selected designers create new looks specific to the Spring 2014 season. Creating spring designs that would make her stand out was a challenge for Donna because she uses leather instead of fabric. To make it work, Donna traveled to a leather hide supplier in California and opted for softer skins with intense colors. Donna and her husband, Tom, own and operate Maj. Tom Harvey's Leatherworks where they have created custom outfits, purses, belts, and chaps. Professional entertainers and rodeo riders often visit their shop to purchase custom made leather outfits and chaps.

In addition to designing with leather, Donna also has a Ph.D in nursing and works full time as the only sitting Distinguished Professor of the College of Nursing at the University She previously served as Director of Organ Transplant Research.

Her website is

<http://stores.majtomharveyleatherworks.com/StoreFront.bok>.



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A member of the American Medical Association and Memphis Medical Society, Dr. Lee earned her medical degree in 1989. She completed her residency in internal medicine at the University of Tennessee's Health Science Center.

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Lakeland Area Churches
Margaret Brown, Keeper of the List



In an effort to keep our list current,
please contact me at mbrown@dbrown.com with any changes
or new congregations to be added.

1st Baptist Church of Lakeland
4500 Canada Road 372-1179

St. Paul United Methodist Church
2949 Davies Plantation Road 387-0007

Chambers Chapel United Methodist Church
3185 Chambers Chapel Road 757-3608

Greater Bush Grove MB Church
9427 Memphis-Arlington Road 386-7652

Centerpoint Church @ theRefuge Church
9817 Huff 'N Puff Road 213-2143

New Salem Cumberland Presbyterian Church
6813 Salem Road 829-3241

St. Philip Episcopal Church
9380 Davies Plantation Road 338-9830

theRefuge Church
9817 Huff 'N Puff Road 229-0193

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